



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D C 20463

MAY 24 2005

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Benjamin L. Ginsberg, Esq.  
Patton Boggs LLP  
2550 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20037-1350

RE: MUR 5655  
Richard G. Renzi  
Rick Renzi for Congress and Christopher J.  
Ward, in his official capacity as treasurer

Dear Mr. Ginsberg:

On May 3, 2005, the Federal Election Commission found that there is reason to believe that your clients, Richard G. Renzi and Rick Renzi for Congress and Christopher J. Ward, in his official capacity as treasurer ("the Committee") each violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a), a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), and that the Committee also violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 434(b)(1), (2), and (4), and 434(b)(2)(F), provisions of the Act, and 11 C.F.R. § 102.17(c)(8)(i)(B), a regulation promulgated pursuant to the Act.

These findings were based on information ascertained by the Commission in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. *See* 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(2). The Commission's Audit Report on Rick Renzi for Congress serves as the Factual and Legal Analysis to explain the Commission's findings in this matter and is enclosed for your information. Please note that the Audit Report is redacted to remove tax return information; the Commission believes that your clients have access to the redacted tax information.

You may submit any factual or legal materials that you believe are relevant to the Commission's consideration of this matter. Statements should be submitted under oath.

In the  
absence of additional information, the Commission may find probable cause to believe that a violation has occurred and proceed with conciliation.

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Requests for extensions of time will not be routinely granted. Requests must be made in writing at least five days prior to the due date of the response and specific good cause must be demonstrated. In addition, the Office of the General Counsel ordinarily will not give extensions beyond 20 days.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. §§ 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that your clients wish the investigation to be made public.

For your information, we have enclosed a brief description of the Commission's procedures for handling possible violations of the Act. If you have any questions concerning the scope of the subpoena and order, or if there are other issues that you wish to discuss, please contact Ruth Heilizer, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1598.

Sincerely,



Scott E. Thomas  
Chairman

Enclosures

Factual and Legal Analyses  
Procedures

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